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RAILROADS IN NEVADA.

THAT railroad construction in Nevada is going to establish a new mark this year is almost beyond conjecture. The air is filled with reports and rumors of new projects that said to have been financed to the point where construction may begin as soon as delivery of material is arranged. Of the many new lines proposed one is almost completed. This is the Deep Creek railroad following the Utah-Nevada line and opening several new camps of promise, besides entering an inviting agricultural country where the markets are established in advance. This line is of vast importance to Nevada, since it serves as a feeder to the Western Pacific, which is showing greater activity than any other line in getting communications established with sources of freight. Then the Copper Belt must not be overlooked. The construction on this short line is highly important as it is bound to stimulate mining in a section that has suffered for want of adequate transportation. But, while these little feeders are stretching out their tentacles to grasp trade the big corporations are equally alert to insinuate themselves in strategic positions. For instance, the sale of the Nevada, California and Oregon railroad appears to be the forerunner of a more important movement having for its object another north and south line between Oregon and tidewater on the Pacific. The Strahorn system is slowly creeping down from the north and reports from Wall street say there is an abundance of money behind the project which presages the belief that a new element is about to enter Nevada to compel active development of mining and farming interests. Then there is the Tybo company that is merely awaiting the physical development of its mines to enter the railroad field. This line would connect the eastern end of the state with existing north and south lines and possibly, serve as an entry for the Western Pacific into the richest territory of the state. The Western Pacific also is contemplating building into the Jarbidge country, where a survey was completed years ago but this line may not materialize for some time owing to the costly engineering difficulties. However, there is an excellent prospect of the company beginning this year by stretching out in the direction of the Idaho line and tapping the rich stock raising country owned by the Utah-Idaho Sugar company. The only drawback to energetic work is the difficulty of securing delivery of material in the way of rails and bridge steel and the slowness of manufacturers in meeting orders for equipment.

CONDITIONAL LOYALTY.

UPON the condition that organized labor shall have "representation on all agencies determining and administering policies for national defense," a conference of labor leaders has adopted a resolution pledging its members, in peace or war, "to stand unreservedly by the standards of liberty and the safety and preservation of the institutions and ideals of our republic." Other conditions are state also, but this is sufficient as the basis for an analysis of a conditional pledge of loyalty.

The mere statement of this condition is an assumption that organized labor does not already have all the representation to which it is entitled under the institutions and ideals of the republic. Such an assumption is manifestly false. The Wilson administration was returned to power largely through the special efforts of organized labor. Organized labor has been freely consulted by the president. In fact, there was complaint prior to election that the head of the American Federation of Labor, more than any other one man, had the ear of President Wilson. Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of the Navy Daniels have long posed as the special advocates of the interests of the laboring man.

But it must not be overlooked that when organized labor asks for representation on any governmental agency separate and distinct from the representation which all other American citizens have, it is asking something in conflict with the "institutions and ideals" upon which the republic was founded. Nowhere in the constitution nor in the debates attending the framing and adoption of that document, can there be found any intimation that any particular class of citizens should be entitled to special representation in any branch of our government. This is a government by all the people, of all the people and for all the people.

SHOWS LACK OF CONFIDENCE.

THE president's purpose to provide arms for American ships in advance of Congressional action was promptly communicated to the nations of the world by the state department, acting through the legations here. This was not done entirely for the information of the other powers, and was intended further, as a gentle hint that the United States would be glad of company in this act of defiance of the Teutonic warning to get off the ocean.

In Congress and in military and naval circles, not to say among diplomats, this is looked upon as a weak feature in an otherwise strong proceeding. It is, however, a logical consequence of that earlier act of Mr. Wilson's in requesting the neutrals of the world to follow his lead in severing diplomatic relations with Germany, and both steps serve to impress publicists, here and abroad, with a feeling that the president does not have sufficient confidence in his own policies or that he is doubtful of the extent to which the people of his own country will sustain his course. Otherwise, these gentlemen inquire, why should Mr. Wilson seek co-operation in a matter where he is right, where his country is powerful enough to act alone, and where public sentiment has never hitherto failed to rally to the support of an administration which stood energetically for the national dignity?

This has seriously weakened the strength of his position, diplomatically at any rate, and it probably has also weakened the political effect at home of his belated and attenuated courage.

CLIPPED AND CREDITED.

Germany has appointed herself food dictator of England.

The Germans are overtly actul; Mr. Wilson is over tactful. New York Sun.

"Small potatoes" has ceased to be a phrase of depreciation.—Wall Street Journal.

All these signs of patriotism are extremely annoying to the pacifists.—Philadelphia North American.

What a suggestive similarity between the words "potato" and "potentate."—Atlanta Constitution.

International law may not be easy to define, but anybody can recognize an international outlaw.—Toledo Blade.

It appears that we are not the only nation that has been doing a little watchful waiting in Mexico.—New York Sun.

IMPRESSION OF MANHATTAN BY A LIVE PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

BY ROBERT B. CONNOLLY
Publicity Director of San Francisco Stock Exchange

If Manhattan, Nevada, ascends to a level where it will be discussed to the exclusion of all other camps in America, it will be because of the ingrained stubbornness of the average prospector. He makes up his mind that he is right and he stays on the ground of his choosing, defying the combined knowledge of mining engineers, disappointed investors and operators who believe in limited investment and quick profits. The permanent resident of any "Ghost City" makes the average optimist look like a picture of hard luck.

After a careful analysis of the situation existing here today it would seem that Manhattan was very largely a victim of circumstances over which the camp had no control. There was the San Francisco fire and earthquake of 1906, against which no timely provision could possibly have been made. There were the leasers who scraped the surface of all the ore that might be cashed in with a minimum of effort and there was the reluctance of all concerned to spend money in quantity sufficient to prove even the underlying geological formation of the district. In the brief period of its dominance many sudden fortunes were made in Manhattan, but there is no record of any of them having been devoted to a satisfactory investigation of why gold was found on the surface, at reasonable depth in the few shafts that were driven and in formations that puzzled the pioneers from Goldfield, Tonopah and other Nevada districts. This was an addition to the burden of ill luck that was saddled on Manhattan for a period of nearly 12 years, or until the White Caps were showing brought conviction not only to the dreamers in the half-abandoned camp, but also to the skeptics who witnessed Manhattan's rise and fall and who are now scattered over the face of the earth.

John G. Kirchen, of Nevada, deserves all the credit for the practical demonstration that has affected the mining world during the past two months—a credit that he is generously willing to share with two or three of the old-timers who did not move out of Manhattan, but continued their explorations until they had accumulated a vast store of information, the import of which they did not realize. Kirchen, as general manager of the Tonopah Extension, which had been the leader of that camp, had a cursory knowledge of Manhattan, but the refractory character of its ores convinced him that it would be an expensive waste of time to make a thorough exploration of the camp, more than 40 miles distant.

He became interested only through the repeated visits of the pioneers who had not lost their faith. As time for inspection became available he went over the ground in person, and he solved the problem that nettled himself and his associates more than a million dollars and brought Manhattan back to this most interesting of stage—the eve of a rush.

Most interesting of all is the recital of how Kirchen reached his conclusions. It is said, by the miners who have had access to all the White Caps workings, that his plan of procedure, as carried out to date, might have been written by some resident of the Devonian age while the surface of the earth was undergoing a very radical transformation in character. It was in the Devonian period that Manhattan acquired all its subterranean wealth, and it was necessary that Kirchen date his original premises from that remote time, with the possibility that all his calculations might be upset if he overlooked any subsequent reconstruction of the earth's crust.

What happened in Manhattan has been told in language scientific, but a large number of the words are difficult of pronunciation and impossible of spelling. At a point a few miles out of Manhattan, and on the present road from Tonopah, there begins a limestone capping that extends well over what is now the Manhattan district. This point is marked by a remarkably consistent reproduction of an elephant in limestone. It is more than locally famous because it is the oldest Devonian shale yet discovered anywhere on this coast where mining is the issue.

What happened was a squeeze play, accompanied by some of the symptoms that affected Mother Earth when Manhattan went into the discard with the San Francisco earthquake. There was forced up from below a great body of granite, also called alaskite, and between the two, and in advance of the coming of the granite, came the hot water, the slime and the elements carried in solution, including a number of contents found in their alphabetical order between arsenic and zinc.

The granite was hard and impenetrable. The limestone was the weaker vessel, and the solution lay between. Kirchen, knowing the relative resistance of both formations, made a hundred to one bet that the limestone was defeated when the pressure became sufficiently intense. He won. Wherever the limestone was weak, or admitted of the intrusion from below, the mineral bearing waters were forced, either being impounded to some extent or receding to recesses created at great depth. When the hot water washed up it left the gold, which in some cases made instant friends with such other elements as were on the gold visiting list in the society of chemistry and the gold, as demonstrated, has held its residence to date. And it was such a simple problem as this that held Manhattan back for 12 years and caused men to wonder why they ever took an interest in mining.

As to the stubborn prospectors. A few who saw and believed, have bridged the chasm between poverty and wealth during the past two months. One of them is an underground worker in the White Caps who never misses a shift, and who is generally believed to own 20,000 shares of White Caps stock, which at this writing is quoted somewhat above two dollars per share.

REGAINING POWER THROUGHOUT PERSIA

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Mar. 22. — "Germany's aim to extend her dominion from Antwerp to the Indian ocean is by no means defeated and will not be defeated until the end of the war," said Earl Curzon, member of the British war council and former viceroy of India, in the house of lords the other day in reply to a question by Lord Bryce, former ambassador to the United States. Lord Curzon said that while the Turks still are in possession of 30,000 square miles of territory in Persia, the Russian troops are barring their further advance in that country.

In explaining the state of things in the near east, Lord Curzon said that the prospect of German success in Persia was best in August last, but that since then it had greatly lessened so that now the situation there was almost satisfactory to the British government. To aid the Russians in clearing out the Turks, Lord Curzon said reinforcements are now being sent from India and that it was hoped to restore order there before many months.

"We seem to be in a fair way," continued Lord Curzon, "to be consolidating the position against the Ottoman power. I cannot say that the situation is altogether from from anxiety. Turkish troops have still to be turned out from the western portions of Persia. The southern part and shores of the hinterland of the Persian gulf are still in a state of disorder and the trade routes are not yet all opened. But I think we may say that the worst is over and the particular link Persia has supplied in this great German chain of ambition has been forcibly twisted aside. If it has not been broken."

The British successes in Mesopotamia would, he believed, have a decided influence on the whole situation in the Near East.

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